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Criminal Law & Procedure, Sentencing

US v. McCormick, No. 13-2504

In this case involving a pharmacy robbery, imposition of a two-level role-in-the-offense sentence enhancement on defendant for leading, organizing, managing, or supervising a criminal activity is affirmed, where the record is replete with circumstantial evidence adequate to support the finding that the defendant was in control of the entire operation.

Civil Rights, Injury & Tort Law

Hunt v. Massi, No. 14-1379

In this case, defendant police officers refused to accede to the request of plaintiff Hunt that he be handcuffed with his hands in front of him. Hunt had explained to the officers that he had undergone stomach surgery and could not have his hands cuffed behind his back. Denial of summary judgment for defendants on the plaintiffs' claims of excessive force, battery, and violation of the Massachusetts Civil Rights Act is reversed and remanded, where Hunt had no clearly established right to be cuffed with his hands in front of him and the officers reasonably understood their actions in effectuating the arrest to be constitutional.